

Standards and accessibility. A researcher in the world of consensus

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- 
- Teaching
 - Researching
 - Knowledge transfer > standardisation (personal journey)



Standards: why?

- “Define essential requirements to make products and services that work” (<https://www.iso.org/standards-in-action.html>)
- Safety and reliability, predictability and usability.
- Weights, measures, road, toys, electrical wiring... but human factors?



Standardisation bodies

- International (World Standards Cooperation, WSC)
 - ISO (International Standardisation Organisation)
 - IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission)
 - ITU (International Telecommunication Union)



Standardisation bodies

- European Standards Organisations (ESOs)
 - CEN (European Committee for Standardisation)
 - CENELEC (European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardisation)
 - ETSI (European Telecommunication Standards Institute)
- State (for instance, AENOR/UNE).



My experience

- First steps at ITU
- Involvement at ISO/IEC SC35 User interface WG6 Accessibility

<https://www.iso.org/committee/45382.html>



Disclaimer

This presentation is about my personal experience, as a researcher who has become involved in standardisation.

I do not represent ISO nor the Spanish national standardisation agency. It is my personal view.

Information has been retrieved from official sources (ISO website, etc.), as acknowledged, and from my personal experience.



Becoming an expert: ISO structure

- ISO produces IS (and similar documents) through a committee structure
- ISO committees, made up of ISO national member bodies (P or O)
- Working groups: specific tasks
- Chair, convenors, national delegates, experts, project leaders.



Procedures for technical work

- Market relevance
- Application of modern technology and programme management
- Consensus
- Discipline
- Cost-effectiveness

(Source: Joining in, ISO)



ISO Code of Conduct

- Work for the benefit of the international community
- Uphold consensus and governance
- Agree to a clear purpose and scope
- Participate actively and manage effective representation
- Escalate and resolve disputes
- Behave ethically
- Respect others in meetings

(Source: My ISO Job, ISO)



Types of deliverables and stages

- International Standard, Technical Specification, Technical Report, Publicly Available Specifications, International Workshop Agreements
- Stages: welcome to the world of acronyms!
 - Stages: preliminary (PWI), proposal (NP), preparatory (WD), committee (CD), enquiry (DIS), approval (FDIS), publication (IS).





An example: ISO/IEC SC35 User interfaces

<https://www.iso.org/committee/45382.html>



ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 35

User interfaces

About

Secretariat: AFNOR

Secretary: [Mme Méliissa Jean](#)

Chairperson (until end 2018): Dr Khalid Choukri

ISO Technical Programme Manager : [Mme Blandine Garcia](#)

ISO Editorial Programme Manager : [Ms Katherine Bennett](#)

Creation date: 1998

Scope

Standardization in the field of user-system interfaces in information and communication technology (ICT) environments and support for these interfaces to serve all users, including people having accessibility or other specific needs, with a priority of meeting the JTC 1 requirements for cultural and linguistic adaptability.

This includes:

- user interface accessibility (requirements, needs, methods, techniques and enablers);
- cultural and linguistic adaptability and accessibility (such as evaluation of cultural and linguistic adaptability of ICT products, harmonized human language equivalents, localization parameters, voice messaging menus);
- user interface objects, actions and attributes;
- methods and technologies for controlling and navigating within systems, devices and applications in visual, auditory, tactile and other sensorial modalities (such as by voice, vision, movement, gestures);
- symbols, functionality and interactions of user interfaces (such as graphical, tactile and auditory icons, graphical symbols and other user interface elements);
- visual, auditory, tactile and other sensorial input and output devices and methods in ICT environments (for devices such as keyboards, displays, mice);
- user interfaces for mobile devices, hand-held devices and remote interactions.

Quick links

[Work programme](#)
Drafts and new work items

[Working area](#)
on ISOTC and Public information folder

[ISO Electronic applications](#)
IT Tools that help support the standards development process



68

published ISO standards*
under the direct responsibility
of ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 35

18

ISO standards under
development*
under the direct responsibility
of ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 35

17

Participating members

17

Observing members

* number includes updates

Source: <https://www.iso.org/committee/45382.html>

Structure

Liaisons

Meetings

Reference	Title	Type
ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 35/AHG 1 ⓘ	Internet of Things (IoT) User interfaces	Working group
ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 35/SG 1 ⓘ	Accessibility aspects of Active Assisted Living (AAL) use cases	Working group
ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 35/WG 1 ⓘ	Keyboards, methods and devices related to input and its feedback	Working group
ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 35/WG 2 ⓘ	Graphical user interface and interaction	Working group
ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 35/WG 4 ⓘ	User interfaces for mobile devices	Working group
ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 35/WG 5 ⓘ	Cultural and linguistic adaptability	Working group
ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 35/WG 6 ⓘ	User interfaces accessibility	Working group
ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 35/WG 7 ⓘ	User interfaces object, actions and attributes	Working group
ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 35/WG 8 ⓘ	User interfaces for remote interactions	Working group



ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 35 - Secretariat

AFNOR France

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Web: <http://www.afnor.org>

Secretariat direct:

Mme Mélissa Jean

Email: melissa.jean@afnor.org

Source: <https://www.iso.org/committee/45382.html>




How I got involved?

- Spanish mirror committee member: AEN/CTN 133/ GT3 (07/09/2013)
- ISO/IECT JTC 1 /SC35/ WG6 member (10/12/2014)
- ISO/IEC NP TS 20071-25 Project co-leader (24/09/2015)




Access services: audio description

- ISO/IEC TS 20071-11: 2015 Information technology- User interface component accessibility. Part 21: Guidance on audio description
- Published in 2015.
- 24 pages



Access services: audio subtitling

- ISO/IEC TS 20071-25:2017. Information technology- User interface component accessibility. Part 25: Guidance on the audio presentation of text in videos, including captions, subtitles and other on-screen text
- Co-editor with E. Hedberg



Access services: audio subtitling

- Suggestion in a meeting in Barcelona (2014).
- Presentation in Denmark (2015). Consensus on interest and scope
- New Work Item Proposal: first half of 2015.
- Discussion of subsequent versions in Japan(2015), Korea (2016) and Italy (2016).
 - Proposal / comments / discussion of comments
- Published in February 2017 (12 pages).



Access services: subtitling

- ISO/IEC TS 20071-25:2017. Information technology- User interface component accessibility. Part 21: Guidance on the visual presentation of audio information (including captions and subtitles)



Challenges

- Different stakeholders working as experts
- Different terminology
- Different experiences and interests
- Language and cultural issues
- Consensus at national and international level



Challenges

- Standards are not for free
- We contribute with our own work and paying for our own travelling
- Are they really used?
- Importance of end users and consumers voice
 - Example: ANEC www.anec.eu
- Better collaboration: Joint Initiative on Standardisation (as of June 2016)

https://ec.europa.eu/growth/single-market/european-standards/policy_en

Challenges: relationship with research



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Challenges: relationship with research

NEA



Unión Europea

Fondo Europeo
de Desarrollo Regional
"Una manera de hacer Europa"

pagines.uab.cat/nea

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